

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-15 (cancelled)

16. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~44~~21 wherein the clamping interface includes a spindle portion rotatable relative to a hub and comprising:

assembling at least one disc relative to the spindle portion prior to supplying the clamping force to install the clamp.

17. (currently amended -withdrawn) The method of claim ~~45~~21 and further comprising ~~the step of~~

engaging the inner portion of the clamp through a slot between flange segments of the clamping interface to remove the clamp.

18. (withdrawn) The method of claim 16 and comprising:

aligning a tool relative to a slot between flange segments of the spindle portion;
and
engaging a portion of the clamp with the tool through the slot to remove the clamp.

19. (currently amended - withdrawn) The method of claim 18 wherein the clamp includes a plurality of tabs and ~~the step of engaging~~ the portion of the clamp with the tool engages at least one of the plurality of tabs .

20. (currently amended-withdrawn) The method of claim 19 wherein the plurality of tabs are coupled to an inverted spring portion seated in ~~the~~ a groove of the clamping interface and ~~the step of engaging the portion of the clamp~~ engages the clamp to snap the inverted spring portion of the clamp out of the groove of the clamping interface.

21. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 14 and~~ A method comprising:

supplying an outward force in a first direction to an inner portion of ~~the~~a clamp;
~~prior to~~

supplying ~~the~~a clamping force in a second direction different from the first
direction to install the clamp over a flange of ~~the~~a clamping interface.

22. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~14~~21 and comprising :

~~engaging an inner portion and an outer portion of the clamp; and~~
~~positioning the clamp proximate to the clamping interface prior to supplying the~~
~~clamping force to snap fitting~~ the~~an~~ inverted spring portion of the clamp
into ~~the~~a groove of the clamping interface.

23. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~14~~21 wherein supplying the outward force and
comprises:

engaging an inner portion of the clamp along a sloped surface of an assembly tool
to ~~bias~~supply the ~~inverted spring portion of the clamp~~ outwardly force to
the inner portion prior to supplying the clamping force.

24.(previously presented) The method of claim 23 and further comprising moving the assembly
tool toward the clamping interface prior to supplying the clamping force.

25. (previously presented) The method of claim 24 wherein the clamp includes a plurality of tabs
spaced about an inner circumference of the clamp and the assembly tool engages one or more of
the plurality of tabs to bias ~~the~~an inverted spring portion of the clamp outwardly to install the
clamp over a flange of the clamping interface.

26. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~22~~21 wherein the clamping force is supplied while inner and outer tools engage the inner portion and an outer portions of the clamp.

27. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~22~~21 wherein the clamping interface is formed on a spindle assembly and comprising:

loading one or more discs on the spindle assembly prior to supplying the clamping force to install the clamp.

28. (currently amended) A method comprising:

~~engaging an inner portion and an outer portion of a disc clamp;~~
positioning ~~the~~ disc clamp proximate to a spindle assembly; ~~and~~
supplying a clamping force to the disc clamp along an inverted portion of the disc clamp spaced from inner and outer edges of the disc clamp; and
_____ ~~to~~ installing the inverted portion of the disc clamp into a recessed groove of the spindle assembly.

29. (previously presented) The method of claim 28 and comprising:

supplying an outward force to the inner portion of the disc clamp prior to supplying the clamping force.

30. (previously presented) The method of claim 29 wherein the outward force is supplied via an assembly tool and the outward force is released following application of the clamping force so that the disc clamp engages or abuts a flange of the spindle assembly.

31. (previously presented) The method of claim 28 comprising:

installing one or more discs on the spindle assembly prior to supplying the clamping force.

32. (currently amended) A method comprising:

~~inserting an assembly tool into an inner portion of a clamp and engaging~~
~~the~~an clamp along a sloped surface of ~~the~~an assembly tool to supply an
outward force to an inner portion of the clamp so that the clamp fits over a
flange on a ~~spindle~~clamp assembly; and
applying a force to the clamp spaced from the inner portion of the clamp to release
the clamp from the assembly tool to snap fit the clamp into a groove of the
~~spindle~~clamp assembly.

33. (currently amended) The method of claim 32 and comprising:

assembling at least one disc on a ledge surface of the ~~spindle~~clamp assembly; and
snap fitting the clamp into the groove of the ~~spindle~~clamp assembly having a
surface recessed below the ledge surface of the ~~spindle~~clamp assembly.

34 (new) The method of claim 33 wherein the clamp includes an inverted spring portion and snap fitting the clamp comprises snap fitting the inverted spring portion into the groove.

35. (new). The method of claim 21 wherein the first direction is generally transverse to the second direction.